

4 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Research and Reports
SUBJECT : Economic Intelligence Handbook — Statistical Summary

1. I have gone through this manual page by page and am extremely favorably impressed with the quality of the data and the manner in which it is presented. I believe it will be a very useful tool for working analysts, both within and without a specific area of Soviet Bloc economic intelligence.
2. Would you please pass this on to the fellows who were primarily responsible for producing it.
3. Am I correct in assuming that the existence of this book does away with the need for continuing the Director's Handbook of Economic Estimates? What are your plans for keeping this up to date? I should be inclined to assume that an annual revision would be adequate at such time in the year as the figures for the preceding year become available. In drawing up the next revision, would you consider the feasibility and desirability of adding a line to the tables giving the estimate for the current year? After all, the typical question is phrased, "How many widgets are the Russians producing?"
4. Would you please furnish this Office with an additional copy so that I may retain one in my personal safe?

ROBERT ALDRIDGE, Jr.
Deputy Director/Intelligence

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